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ST. LOUIS, THURSDAY, JUNE 28. 1860.

\$2 A YEAR, IN ADVANCE.

D. R. M'ANALLY, EDITOR.

Theological. SERMON.

Sinners Invited to Christ. Come unto me all ye that labor and are heav Our blessed Savior, in the days of his flesh, and his goodness extends to every human of the Bible there is not only nothing that ent about doing good." Acts x. 38. He being. Therefore cast away your doubts and is in vain, but nothing redundant, nothing good to the bodies of men, by opening fears, and "go boldly to the throne of grace." superfluous. And as a knowledge of the Chris-

e eyes of the blind, by cleansing the lepers, Heb. iv. 16. d by raising the dead. He did good to the ls of men, by instructing the ignorant, by proving the careless, and by comforting afflicted A conscience burdened with bad of guilt, is the heaviest affliction of in in the present world; but when peni- the poor widow prevailed with the unjust lily duty. What would be thought of a pat sinners applied to Jesus, he healed their judge by persevering application. unded hearts. All that labored and were y ladened were invited to approach his

In discoursing on these words, we shall ange our thoughts under three heads: st, awake ned sinners labor and are heavy ed to go to Christ; and, thirdly, when y go to him, he gives them rest.

itation found rest and peace.

an. He mourns the loss of pleasure, wealth spoken the word. d fame; but he loves his sins, abhors retion, and is joined to idols. The world has s plunged him into sorrow, but he does

The ceremonial law was a burden, and any of the Jews labored and were heavily dened under its expensive rites: but the neive religion. Jesus had a greater work fore him than that of putting an end to Jewish ritual. He came into the world save sinners; and they are invited to come to him for salvation.

The character of sinners who labor and spirits down. These are two: First, a sense be said to be in the gall of bitterness and heavy laden, may be expressed in three of guilt; and, secondly, a fear of punishment. bonds of iniquity, "without God and without rticulars: They are convinced of sin; they livered from it.

They are convinced of sin. The light of th has opened their eyes to see the wickhoss of their hearts, and the sinfulness of ir lives. And now they were ready to acknowledge that they were shapen in guity; and that their hearts were deceitful desperately wicked; and that their liver been one continued source of sin and But have they no good works to a sinful in a legal point of view. having en short of what the law requires; and

whave been defective in that which is

gle eye to the glory of God. But they feel the heavy weight of sin; and is a burden that is "intolerable to be ene." Their spirits are pressed down to earth: they sigh and groan, they weep lament, and know not where to flee for

voing hell. Their health declines; busiware going mad! "The spirit of a man I sustain his infirmities; but a wounded rit who can bear?"

And now they desire deliverance from this stched state. The cry of their hearts is, shall deliver? This desire leads them to sake their old companions; they renounce

nof God. They lie at the pool of Bethesthey knock at the door of mercy; and not far from the kingdom. Jesus sees Fir sorrow: his bowels of compassion move wards them; and he says, "Come unto me." w the day breaks, and the light of the pel dawns upon their hearts. II. They are graciously invited to go to Christ

It many are ready to inquire where shall itation to laboring and heavy laden sinrs, he was on earth; but he has left our nd of God. Can we find access to him in regions of glory. We reply, if you can ascend to him, he can come down to you. n need. But the penitent sinner has ac s to him by faith and prayer, both in the above, and in every other place where real upon his name; for his presence for ever. Amen.—Edmondson. et confined to the heavenly world, but ere two or three are gathered together in name, he is in the midst. Matt. xviii. 20. s is encouraging; but you are to go to him way which becomes a perishing sinner pply to Jesus just as you are, with all it but the good Physician.

o to him without delay. Time is uncer- portant means of grace and outward observ-This hour you are on earth; the next ances plainly implied in the Word of God, children belonging to the school—still, the may be in hell. Seize the present mo-11d, now is the accepted time; behold now from the example of holy men, and from incan not be recalled; we may not live to arriving at a knowledge of duty, an import-

his moment bangs eternity. pply to Christ with humility. Thus the positive precept can be invoked to compel digal returned to his father; and thus the us to a certain duty, we will, therefore, refuse lican approached God in the temple. to perform it, even though it be plainly imed, and have committed iniquity, and precept in all cases of incumbent moral duty, • done wickedly, and have rebelled even is to be regarded with great suspicion, and precepts and from thy judgments." scrutinized with rigorous severity. The de-

ing to save. And can you doubt either the God is too weak to secure obedience, even one or the other? His power is unlimited; if it were thus enjoined. In the legislation

Wrestle with your God and Savior, in Christian family, will show that out of that mighty prayer, until he gives you rest, character and organization, certain duties Jacob prevailed by persevering faith and necessarily arise, the necessity for a preprayer; the woman of Canaan obtained her cept enforcing them is superseded. Let us request by persevering faith and prayer; and apply this demand to other branches of fam-

But, if thy Lord should seem to delay, do to enforce upon him the obligation to feed not leave his mercy seat; but continue to his children; another to clothe his children; cions presence; and all that obeyed the plead with him, until he shall say, "Be it another to train them to some honorable emunto thee even as thou wilt." Matt. xv. 28. ployment? You would pronounce such a de-He may see it fit to prove you fully; he may mand unnatural and absurd, because the input on a frowning countenance to try your stincts of nature compel to those duties. faith; and then you will learn to prize the And if nature infallibly impels to make proened; secondly, they are graciously in- blessing which has cost you many prayers vision for the temporal wants of our children, and tears. Jacob wrestled all night; but the with no less certainty does renewed nature blessing came in the morning. The woman prompt us to make provision for their spirit-1. Awakened sinners labor and are heavy of Canaan was repulsed several times; but, ual necessities. And, although no express dened. Worldly sorrow, which worketh when she was finally proved, the Lord had command may be found, the obligation is asseth, is a heavy burden; but Christianity mercy on her. And will he not have mercy certained by an amount of evidence equivafers no consolation, either here or hereafter, on you? Will he cast you away? He will lent to a command. It pleads the sanction the unsanctified sorrows of the carnal not. The blessing is sure; for the Lord hath of the highest examples. In the time of the

III. When laboring and heavy-laden sinners sons who not only feared God and worked go to Christ, he gives them rest. There is a righteousness, but who made religion a ceived him, but he still pursues it; and sin two-fold rest spoken of in the Holy Scrip- prominent part of their household arrangetures—one which is enjoyed by the Christian ments. Thus the family of Abraham was believers in the present world; and another the Church of God, and his attention to the which remains to them in the world to come. religious character of his children is attested The former is intended in our text; but it by God in this language: "For I know him, prepares the soul for the enjoyment of the that he will command his children, and his witation of our text was not addressed to latter in a future state. Grace in the soul is household after him, and they shall keep juswhose only sorrow was that of an ex- the commencement of glory, and glory is the tice and judgment." consummation of grace.

To understand the nature of that rest ular tribute of praise to God, in whom they which is promised to all that labor and are live, move and have their being, is in an exheavy laden, when they go to Christ, we posed and defenseless condition. Without must examine those things which weigh their any breach of Christian charity, they may

But go to Christ, that he may give you hope in the world." Such a family can have its heavy weight; and they desire to be rest from the heavy load of guilt which lies no feeling of safety and comfort, arising from upon your conscience. Believe on him, and a consciousness of possessing the divine faall your sins shall be forgiven; for "to him vor and protection. They must either be gave all the prophets witness, that through insensible to the dangers that everywhere his name whosoever believeth in him shall surround them, and which often burst upon receive remission of sins." Acts x. 43. And the heads of offenders less guilty than them when your sins are remitted, through the selves, and sweep away from the earth famatonement of Christ, your souls will enjoy lilies, cities and nations, or they must be sweet rest and peace.

When the guilt of sin is removed, you household that dwelleth in the secret place have no fear of punishment; for that which of the Most High shall abide under the Not one. Their best works have is pardoned can not be punished. All your shadow of the Almighty, and can never have frightful fears of death and hell are taken any ground to fear the approach of evil. away when your sins are blotted out, and Their house is a little sanctuary, a bethel, mabled to rejoice in hone of the where God is honored, where he dwells, and glory of God, which shall be revealed to all which he will protect when the storm of his vacant seats in your Father's house, and ential to every good work, namely: A the saints of the Most High. What hath the retributive vengeance lays in ruins with world to equal this rest of the soul?

Your souls, like the sea in the mighty tem- ing curse of his dishonored law consumes pest, were agitated by alarming terrors; but the strength and the glory of the most flour-Jesus said, "Peace, be still:" and immediately ishing families. your minds were calm and tranquil. Like ty If they turn to the law, they see the the unhappy man who was possessed with a unt which burned with fire; if they look legion of devils, you had no rest by day or sit up late, but whose morning and evening wards, they see the frowns of an angry night; but the demons are cast out, and you oblations never appear at the family altar? d: if they look downwards, they see a now sit at the feet of Jesus in your right Or are you of that class whose morning and mind. And the peace of God, which passeth fails in their hands, and the world says all understanding, keeps your hearts and minds through Jesus Christ."

This rest prepares you for that which remaineth to the people of God. Heb. iv. 9. A rest from all the toils of life; from all the temptations of the wicked one; and a rest from all the conflicts of the Christian waruse of means. They begin to pray; they fare. Happy world! Look up and survey its glories. They are all your own through ir sins; and they associate with the chil- the merit of our Lord and Savior Jesus

> We infer from what has been stated in this discourse, that sin is a heavy burden; and that those persons who do not feel its weight in this world, will feel it in the world to come. But it is better to feel it now, than in that awful place where destruction is without a remedy. Prov. xxix. 1.

There is no deliverance for guilty sinners and him? When he gave this gracious but by Christ. We should all perish everlastingly, if it were not for his merit and intercession at the right hand of God. Olet arld, and is highly exalted at the right us apply to him for grace and salvation, while mercy may be had!

Beware of the world. Its unsanctified pleasures may stupefy conscience; but they A knows you well; he hears your prayers; administer no comfort to the soul when it is is ever ready to afford you all the help seized by wrath and justice. Keep out of the way of sin and sinners. Go with the burden of your sins to the foot of the cross; behold the Savior of mankind, and be happy

For the St. Louis Christi n Advocate. Family Prayer

has been urged by those who seek to justify the latter part of that year did it assume their delinquency in this important part of any positive shape; when, in September. guilt and pollution, and with all your family duty, that it is no where expressly 1858, the organization was perfected, and and misery. It would be extreme folly commanded in the Word of God. But the named the "Good Will Home Mission Socihope for any amendment by your own imperative obligation of a duty so coincident ety." Officers were elected, and the memwith the general injunctions of the Word of dition, by your own efforts, the worse God, so obviously arising out of the constitution of the family, and so confirmed by the of the object of the Society, which is "to do of the object of the object of the Society, which is "to do of the object can not save you; the saints can not save example of good men in all ages, and under good." Your disease is deadly, and no one can all dispensations, must not be yielded on so flimsy a pretext. There are some very im nt. Venture to look up just now. "Be- cited. We are left to infer the obligation ganization. he day of salvation." 2 Cor. vi. 2. Past cidental circumstances. By this method of

to-wit, in January, 1859-I was appointed Visiting Missionary for the Society. Gladly the fature; the present is our own, and ant end is gained; the loyalty of the heart I accepted the post of honor conferred upon is tested. It is seen, whether because no me, and since my appointment have been assiduous in my endeavors to advance the interests and objects of the "Good Will Home Mission Society;" and, God being my mbly confess your sins. Say, "We have plied. The disposition to demand a positive helper, much benefit has accrued to me, as I passed from school to school, in the performance of my duty.

Ix 5. This language, proceeding from mand is not only indicative of lamentable self to our own particular Methodist denom- with her whole heart. The child did, with the M. E. Church, South, at Nashville, April a good deal for my copy, and do without it. Intrite heart, opens the door of mercy. ignorance, but of correct religious principle, mation—nor was it so intended—but have confidence, approach her best friend, cast 23d, 1860, it was

Go to Christ with believing hearts. The also. When I hear a professor of religion visited promiscuously, and, so far as ability herself unreservedly upon his mercy, and penitent must believe two things before he say that he will not perform any duty not served, all the different Protestant Sunday found that comfort and consolation that this commend that the Quarterly Meeting Con can have justifying faith: First that Jesus is expressly enjoined in the Word of God, I schools in the city; hoping that, by taking world knows not of. The child still continable to save; and, secondly, that he is will- conclude that his regard for the authority of items, gathering statistics, making compari- ued to grow in grace, and attend the Sunday Zimmerman, A. L. Edwards and S. H. Latti tian character, and the organization of the city, and am happy to report that all are in off in search of that a healthy condition, and doing well. The Sunday school cause is rapidly gaining and she would talk of that ground, and to-day finds it ranking high in the estimation of the Christian people—the rent who would demand an express precept noblest institution in the world. All are forced to bow with respect to the grandeur of its proportions, acknowledging that the institution of Sunday schools is a great and glorious reality. In these schools I find that 3.469 children

patriarchs, parents were required to be per-

A family that lives without offering a reg-

Reader, which class do you belong to?

Are you of that class which rise up early and

evening sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving

is daily offered to God? These are momentous

questions, and it behooves you to be able to

answer them in the sight of God. You must an

swer them now, or when you come to deliver

up your soul to the God who gave it. When

this dreadful hour arrives it will be too late.

Pause, then; now is the accepted time. I

you have lived in the utter neglect of this

important duty to yourself and your family,

be delinquent no longer. This very night

say to your long-neglected family, "O come

and let us worship; let us kneel before the

May God give every parent to know how

responsible is his situation in regard to his

offspring, so that when that dread day

arrives, for which all other days were made

you and your beloved children may meet-

no wanderer lost-a whole family in heaven

Communications.

Missionary Report of the Good Will

Home Mission Society.

the Asbury Methodist Sunday School, or

forming a Missionary Society, to act as an

auxiliary thereto, in imparting religious in-

struction, and for bringing more persons

Some time ago the idea was started, in

For the St. Louis Christian Advocate.

Lord our Maker."

receive instruction, and every Sabbath are impressed with the great Bible truths, and directed to the "Lamb of God, which taketh away the sins of the world." It is a scene replete with interest; and the choristers of heaven, as they gaze with joy upon the happy throng, sing their celestial songs of praise sweeter than they ever did before Even Jesus, the children's Friend, smiles upon them with approbation, and says Suffer the little ones to come unto me; but man, the cold, calculating utilitarian must needs pass by on the other side, with seeming indifference, ever belching forth his dull, monotonous cui bono. To them, St James' words are applicable, when he says: "Brethren, if any of you do err from the truth, and one convert him from the error of his way, let him know that he who converteth a sinner, shall save a soul from death, and shall hide a multitude of sins." Oh. that the converting power of God would work in us and with us more fully unto per-

fect redemption. In conducting the exercises of these schools, I find 672 persons-male and female—of whom 134 hold positions as officers therein; and it rejoiced my heart exceedingly to see these noble hearted servants of God at their posts, faithfully performing the duties assigned to them, and their genuine sincerity and assiduity in trying to win souls for their Master's kingdom. Dear teachers, never grow weary in your good work, or say you have no time, or that you are too ignorant; if you have the grace of God manifested in your heart, push ahead agitated with perpetual uneasiness. The and keep moving. Never stand still. Work according to your time and talents, and in due season you shall reap a rich harvest, it you faint not. Whatsoever your hand findeth to do, that do with all your might; and, as you work, recollect that there are many that these places must be filled by wandering spirits from this world, or remain empty stately temples of ages, and when the blightto all eternity; feel that it is your privile; nay, your duty, to use your influence in peopling heaven; feel that heaven can not do without you, nor yet without the many souls by whom you are surrounded, but that all are invited to come and welcome. "The Spirit and bride say come, and let him that heareth say come; and let him that is a hirst come, and whosoever will, let him take of the waters of life freely."

Dear fellow-teachers, let not the influence which God has given you lie dormant, but so exert it for good as to make it live when you have passed away. Let it be like the morning light, spreading joy and peace all around, and growing brighter and brighter unto the perfect day. "Be ye as cities set upon hills, which can not be hid." It is impossible for you to fully comprehend the Christianizing influence that is silently. though surely, emanating from the many Sunday schools in our land. They are per forming their mission on earth, and doing vast amount of good. Teachers and chil iren are being converted to God, and the brightening, saving influence of the children connected with the Sunday schools is being exemplified more and more every day Fathers and mothers, sisters and brothers through the instrumentality of the children, are being stopped in their wild career, taught to consider their wayward course and forced to fly for mercy to the bleeding side of their Savior. Then all is peace and joy, where once feasting and rioting reigned triumphant. "The lion and the lamb have lain down together, and the little child lead-

The Biddle Market Mission Sabbath Schoo is the largest and best-conducted school in within the influence of Sunday schools. The the city. The reasons why this is so are idea gained ground whenever spoken of; many, some of which I will relate: The first and, in the year 1858, several primary meet- and, perhaps, the best reason is, that there ings of the teachers of the school were held is not a school in the United States which Against the obligation of family prayer, it in furtherance of the project; but not until has a better class of teachers than the abovementioned school. The second reason is last reason which I will mention is. tha they are taught nothing but the gospel, and they are taught this as a dying man would teach dying men. O, teachers, learn to Although owing its existence to the Asbury | teach as they do, and your teaching will be

Sunday School, and being a part and parcel crowned with success. thereof-being composed of the teachers and There are many pleasant reminisences connected with my mission that I shall remember while life endures, and just here you must allow me to make mention of one or two that came under my observation: The In the early part of the following yearfirst, that of a little girl who was connected with the St. George Mission School. II. teacher, one morning, picked her up in the street, and, as a diamond from the mud, she was surrounded, and taken to the Sunday school. She taught her to read the Bible and impressed on her mind the great truths that good Book contains, learned her to fix her hopes within the veil, to cast herself In my visitations I have not confined my- upon the Lord Jesus Christ, and love him

sons, and reporting, from time to time, the school, bidding fair to become a useful memresult of my observations, much good would ber of society; but in her youth, ere the David Clopton and Robt. Hatton, a Beard of result therefrom. Monthly reports have opening bud was allowed to expand, death been made to the Society, at each regular came, and summoned her hence away; and, as in the City of Wast in ston; and when apmeeting, but this is intended as a general she lay on her death bed, surrounded by her pointed, we recommend their cause and their report, commencing with my first appoint father, and mother, and friends, who were agents to the Methodists and people of the ment, since which time I have visited loth to let her go, her mind was centered Southern States. twenty-six different Sunday schools in the on things eternal. Her eyes would wander

"Happy land, far away," "Land of pure delight,

Where saints immortal reign." until all around her were much affected with before the Church. Its importance, we the sweet warblings of the gentle spirit, just | trust, will be properly appreciated. The lo fluttering on the brink of eternity. Thus has been purchased, and we are now waiting she passed from the shores of time into the for the means to build the edifice. So far unknown realities of another existence. the donations have been small, amounting After her death the father sought the school to no more than \$1600 in cash. and the teacher, who had been instrumental The Great Picture, gotten up through the in preparing his loved one for the realms of able and generous efforts of Bro. William T the blest, the home of the happy, and he Smithson, will be completed early in Sep told her of the death of his little girl. The tember next, from the sale of which we exteacher attempted to console him in his sad | pect to realize a handsome amount. Bu bereavement; but, turning to her, he re- we can hardly anticipate from this source marked: "'Tis true she is taken away, and alone an amount sufficient to build such as her death is my loss; but it is her eternal edifice as its contemplated character demand. gain. Glory to God."

tle fellow, while yet in the tender innocence | South. of youth, and, as he lay propped up in his bed, he called to his side his father and mother and little sister, and, after telling and we hope, sir, you will continue to favor them to meet him in heaven, he turned to us in a similar manner. each, and bid them all good bye. Just then his mother asked him if he was sure he was going to heaven? He replied: "O, yes, I want to be with Jesus: I see the gates of heaven opening for me." And, with his body racked with pain, the cold chills of leath stealing o'er his frame, and his voice scarcely able to articulate, yet that little boy commenced repeating: "Our Father, who art in heaven;" but, ere the prayer was finished, his little spirit had winged its eternal tion is from character, and yet how many

Your missionary feels grateful for the kind reception received from the different Sunday schools, as your missionary.

All of which is respectfully submitted. S. G. WHEATLEY.

St. Louis, May 27, 1860.

For the St. Louis Christian Advocate. Washington City Church.

DEAR BROTHER: The following brethren have responded to the one-hundred dolla proposition of the Hon. W. H. Hammet Rev. C. K. Marshall, D.D., Rev. R. Abbey, and Alfred Buttle, Esq. of Alabama.

These responses are really very encouraing to me, and I do most sine rely hope that they will continue to come in rapidly, until the requisite number are obtained to make Mr. Hammet's generous proposition available

to the Church. The lot that I have purchased, on which to build "our Church," is admitted by all to be the most beautiful and desirable location for a church in the city, and I may state, by way of encouragement to our friends, that have been offered \$5,000 more for the lo than I paid for it. This fact is, of course. the very strongest evidence that could be given that my purchase was a most fortu nate one. I hope all that feel an interest in the enterprise will do something to aid me to carry forward the work to a speedy and tri-

umphant success. I have just received a letter from Bro. Cyrus Doggett, enclosing \$10, and saying that the amount was contributed by his people, each member contributing twenty five cents, in response to my appeal recently published in the Advocate, calling upon our preachers to request their members to give them a contribution of twenty five cents each, for "our Washington City Church.' Bro. Doggett says, in his letter, that he hopes to get more-no doubt he will. Might not every member of the St. Louis and Missouri Conferences raise \$10 each in the same way, by a little effort? Brethren, one and all, suppose you try. I also wish to state in this connection.

that I still have some four or five hundred copies of the "Methodist Pulpit, South." leposited with the Depository at St. Louis, and in the hands of Bro. N. G. Berryman, at St. Joseph, and Bro. B. T. Kavanaugh, at Independence, and that I am very anxious to close them out. If every member of the St. Louis and Missouri Conferences would send and get two copies, it would close out that they have a good location; they are in the lot on hand. I have been warmly solicithe very midst of heathers, and the teachers ted by a number of our preachers from all go out into those highways and hedges, and the Conferences, to publish a second volume lead them into the school. The next and of sermons, and I very much desire to comply with their wishes, and shall do so just as soon as I can close out all the copies of the first volume remaining on hand. The second volume, when published, will contain sermons by four of the Bishops, and a number of our ablest ministers in all the Conferences, thirty-five in all; and I need scarcely add that it will be one of the finest and most attractive book of Sermons ever published in America. I am persuaded that all who feel an interest in our Church will be delighted to see this work issued from the press at an early day. It shall be forthcoming just as soon as I can sell out all of the copies of the minutes, and have them thus published (in first volume now on hand. Help me to clo e was relieved of the rubbish with which she them out, brethren, as speedily as possible.

Yours, most truly, Wm. T. Smithson. Washington, D. C., June 7, 1860.

MR. EDITOR: Some few weeks since, the Bishops kindly gave me the following paper, which I send you for publication: At a meeting of the College of Bishops, of

Resolved. That the College of Bi-hops reference of the City of Washington, appoin Wm. T. Smithson, N. M. McGregor, H. F mer, Esqrs, and Hons. T. Polk, Jas. Jackson Trustees to me ive funds and superinch he building of a South rn Methodist Church Joshua Soulf, JAS. O. ANDRI W,

At our recent Quarterly Meeting Conference, the recommendation of the Bishop was approved, and the above-named bretl ren were duly appointed. Our cause is now

ROBERT PAINE,

JOHN EARLY.

The representative Church of Southern And yet one other incident: That of a Methodism at the Federal Metropolis, should little boy, about six years old, who was bespeak, in its magnitude and beauty, some picked up in the street, and taken to the thing of the power and influence of the de Stoddard Mission School, there converted, nomination to which it belongs. We must and learned to love "Jesus, the children's largely depend, therefore, on the contribu friend;" but death overtook this bright lit- tions of generous Methodists throughout the

> For the frequent kind notices of our cause in your paper, we most heartily thank you

J. A. PROCTOR, Truly yours, Pastor M. E. Church, South Washington City.

For the St. Louis Christian Advocate. Character and Reputation.

MR. EDITOR: It is a wonder that terms synonymous; for surely no effect can be further removed from its cause than reputathere are who never attempt to assert then difference in meaning!

The object of this paragraph, which you may publish, if you choose, is to define these terms, so that their true difference in signincation shall stand out like a huge island it the full view of every mariner on the high Character refers to what we really are

while reputation has reference simply to what is said of us. The one is reality; th other, rumor. Reputation, in the golder these latter times, it is not so. For, since confusion has taken precedence of order, D.D., and Rev. N. B. Raiford, of Mississippi; flaming reputation, like an effect springing from a freak in nature, may suddenly arise troin, a more carnulty, and point no more directly to the character than an erratic star to the center of gravity. Once in a lifetime you may see an instance where each is indic ative of the other; but such examples are very rare. The rule that measures character i moral rectitude. Now, to illustrate wha has just been said, let us select from th stage of living realities one or two of the most prominent actors, as, for instance, Alexander the Great, whose reputation fills th world, and bring him up to this standard and, being brought up, what is he? A mir creant, a drunkard, a murderer, and utterly unworthy of the honors which the world ha heaped upon him. Or, take Mahomet, who also, has a world-wide reputation, and an raign him before this inflexible bar of mora decision that knows no prejudice or prefer ence, and what character does he evince That of a libertine and a vile deceiver. The world is full of like examples. If it wer necessary, we might multiply the names o individuals, selected not only from amon, generals, who direct the enginery of war and anti-Christs, which class embraces al the Roman Popes, who allure men to evi but from among emperors and kings, states men and editors, lawyers and doctors, besides a host of others in the more common walks of life, whose aggregated charace like the petty shows that yearly traverse the country, falls far below the advertisement we see painted on the glowing canvaof their reputation. And we might have included the ministers of the gospel, for the reputation of chance ones of them is bot tomed rather upon their office than their character. But here, like the child on a mother's grave, let us tread lightly.

Seeing, then, that these terms are no synonymous, let each endeavor to form : sterling character first, and then expect good reputation, which, like the echo o sound, is sure to be the pleasing result There is a character, which, like a sea filling to the brim, or a chaotic world swelling to its outlines, comes right up with majesty to acter, Jesus Christ. Him may we imitate. L. R. Downing.

Weston, Mo., June 17th.

St Louis Christian Advocate.

Minutes of the Conferences. MR. EDITOR: Do not think that I am go ing to give you a "raking" about the Min ntes of the past year. We want to call the attention of the preachers in the three Con ferences to the importance of adding a few more items to the statistical part of the pamphlet form) every year. This pamphlet would soon be a complete history of the Church-of the three Conferences-and every member ought to be furnished with such documents.

I presume that every one who has seen a copy of the Minutes is convinced of the util ity of the thing. I, for one, would not take Lut enough of this.

I propose that each preacher come up to he coming Conference prepared to report he number of members, probationers, colored and Indian, as usual; and, in addition, eport the number of deaths, expulsions, idult baptisms, infant baptisms, number of thurches, their probable worth, parsonages; umber of unimproved lots, and their value. The propriety of this may be seen at a lance. In this way, we will not only have the true state of each work, but a complete listory of the Church within our bounds. Anti-pedobaptists say that infant baptism

on the decline; but I think that the facts n the case would be a capital refutation of uch an idea. Hence the importance of reorting the number of infants baptized. and, as to the report on church property, it vould save a needless committee, and a lot f lengthy reports, that are not worth their coom on the Secretary's table. All of these additional facts may be reported, in connecion with the usual reports, and thus save a teal of trouble. What do you think, brethen, one and all?

And I propose the following plan to secure ts (the pamphlet's) circulation: Let us find out the cost of publication, and then let each preacher, at Conference, pay his proportion of the cost, and then order a suffiient number to supply his work, which he nay distribute at a small cost to his mempers—or gratuitously, if he pleases.

The cost of publication, thus distributed mong the preachers of the three Confernces, would never be felt. I would wilingly pay my part of the cost for the pamphet itself.

If any one has a better plan, let him C. R. RICE. Shawnee, K. T., June 12, 1860.

KNOWING TOO MUCH.—We find, in one of he Memphis papers, the following anecdote of a man who knew too much:

During the administration of President fackson, there was a singular young gentlenan employed in the public service at Washington. His name was G; he was from l'ennessee, the son of a widow, a neighbor of he President, on which account the old hero and a kind feeling for him, and always got im out of his difficulties with the higher flicials, to whom his singular interferences were distasteful.

Among other things, it is said of him that vhile he was employed in the General Post office, on one occasion he had to copy a leter of Major H., a high officer, in answer to in application made by an old gentleman in Virginia or Pennsylvania, for the estabishment of a new postoffice. The writer i the letter often uses classical language: n this letter he said the application could not be granted in consequence of the appliant's "proximity' to another office. When he letter came into G.'s hand to copy, being great stickler for plainness, he altered proximity" to "nearness to." Major H. bserved it, and asked why he altered his lon't think the man will understand what vou mean by 'proximity.'" "Well," said Major H., "try him; put in the 'proximity'

In a few days a letter was received from the applicant, in which he very indignantly aid: "That his father had fought for liberv in the first, and he himself in the second var of independence, and he would like to lave the name of the scoundrel who brought he charge of proximity or any thing else vrong against him?" "There," said G., did I not say so?" G. carried his improvenents so far, that Mr. Barry, the Postmaser General, said to him, "I do not want you ere any longer; you know too much. Poor G. went out, but his old friend, the teneral, again got him another place. This me G.'s ideas underwent a change. He vas one day very busy writing, when a tranger calling in, asked him where the Patent Office was.

"I don't know," said G. "Can you tell me where the Treasury Department is?" said the stranger. "No," said G.

"Nor the President's house?"

he stranger.

The stranger finally asked him if he knew vhere the Capitol was! "No," replied G. "Do you live in Washington, sir?" said

"Yes, sir," said G. "And don't know where the Patent Office. freasury, President's house, and Capitol

"Stranger," said G., "I was turned out of he Postoffice for knowing too much. ton't mean to offend in that way agan. I m paid for keeping this book. I bel eve I to know that much; but if you find me cnowing anything more, you may take my

"Good morning," said the stranger.

THE MANIA FOR DARK ROOMS -- Amerian women have a strange mania for dark coms; but hear what Florence Nightingale. a her Notes of Nursing, says on the subje t: A dark house is almost always an unnealthy house—always an ill aired hou e. Vant of light stops growth, and promotes erofula, rickets, etc., among the children. People lose their health in a dark house: and, if they get ill, they can not get well gain in it. Three out of many 'negligences nd ignorances' in managing the health of louses generally, I will here mention, as pecimens. First, that the female head in harge of any building does not think it necessary to visit every hole and corner of it every day. How can she expect those wlo her house in a healthy condition than she vho is in charge of it? Second, that it is not considered essential to air, to sun, and to dean rooms while uninhabited, which is amply ignoring the first elementary notion t sanitary things, and laying the ground eady for all kinds of disease. 3. That the vindow, and one window, is considered nough to air a room. Don't imagine that f you, who are in charge, don't look to all hose things yourself, those under you will ne more careful than you are. It appears as f the part of the mistress was to complain of ner servants, and to accept their excuselot to show them how there need be neither omplaints made, nor excuses."

BELGIUM -The Christian Union says: "A ew years ago there was but one Protestant r evangelical church in Belgium. There ere now between thirty and forty such churches, and a population of at least ten housand professed Protestants. This growth s the result of missionary efforts, especially hose which have been put forth comparaavely recently. The desire for evangelical laborers there is extending on every side."